IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (*Currently Amended)* A pipe inlet/outlet device, comprising a tubular body having a hollow, cylindrical neck portion throughout its length and defining a longitudinal axis, the neck portion having an open first end with an outside diameter adapted for fitting snugly in an inflow end of a pipe, and a rounded, non-circular ~~elliptical~~ rim integral with and extending from the neck portion opposite the first end, the rim defining a mouth opening into the neck portion, the rim curving outward and rearward from the mouth.

Claims 2-4. (*Cancelled*)

Claim 5. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device of claim 1, wherein an inner surface of said pipe inlet/outlet device includes boundary layer turbulators.

Claim 6. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device of claim 1, wherein an inner surface of said pipe inlet/outlet device defines a fluid pathway, said pipe inlet/outlet device further comprising a plurality of ribs extending into said fluid pathway for affecting fluid flow through said pipe inlet/outlet device.

Claim 7. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device of claim 1, wherein an inner surface of said pipe inlet/outlet device defines a fluid pathway, said pipe inlet/outlet device having a plurality of grooves extending into said fluid pathway for affecting fluid flow through said pipe inlet/outlet device.

Claim 8. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device of claim 1, wherein the mouth of the tubular body has a trumpet bell shape.

Claim 9. (*Cancelled)*

Claim 10. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device according to claim 1, wherein said tubular body is made from plastic.

Claim 11. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device according to claim 1, wherein said tubular body is made from high density polyethylene.

Claim 12. (*Original)* The pipe inlet/outlet device according to claim 1, wherein said tubular body is made from metal.

Claim 13. (*Original*) The pipe inlet/outlet device according to claim 1, wherein the neck portion of said tubular body is dimensioned and configured for friction fit into an inflow end of a storm drainage pipe disposed in a tank.

Claim 14. (*Currently Amended*) A fluid handling system, comprising:

a retention tank;

a pipe extending from the retention tank, the pipe having an inflow end for receiving the fluid from the tank;

a pipe inlet device having:

a tubular body having a hollow, cylindrical neck portion defining a longitudinal axis, the neck portion having an open first end fitting snugly into the inflow end of the pipe, and a rounded, non-circular ~~elliptical~~ rim integral with and extending from the neck portion opposite the first end, the rim defining a mouth opening into the neck portion, the rim curving outward and rearward from the mouth.

Claims 15 and 16. (*Cancelled*)

Claim 17. (*Original*) The fluid handling system according to claim 14, wherein said tank is selected from the group consisting of a manhole and a catch basin.

Claim 18. (*Original*) The fluid handling system according to claim 14, wherein said tubular body is made from high density polyethylene.

Claim 19. (*Currently Amended*) A method of increasing a fluid handling capacity of a pipe, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a pipe inlet device comprising a neck portion having a neck portion adapted for fitting snugly in an inflow end of the pipe and a rounded, non-circular ~~elliptical~~ rim integral with and extending from the neck portion opposite the first end, the rim defining a mouth opening into the neck portion, the rim curving outward and rearward from the mouth;

attaching the neck portion to the inflow end of the pipe;

whereby the rounded rim provides a consistent, smooth entry to efficiently guide the fluid into the pipe thereby improving the rate of flow into the pipe.

Claim 20. (*Original*) The method of increasing fluid handling capacity according to claim 19, wherein said attaching step further comprises the steps of:

applying adhesive to an outside of the neck portion; and

inserting the neck portion into the inflow end of the pipe.

Claim 21. (*New*) The pipe inlet/outlet device of claim 1, wherein the mouth of the tubular body has an elliptical shape.

Claim 22. (*New*) The fluid handling system according to claim 14, wherein the mouth of the tubular body has a trumpet bell shape.

Claim 23. (*New*) The fluid handling system according to claim 14, wherein the mouth of the tubular body has an elliptical shape.

Claim 24. (*New*) The method of increasing fluid handling capacity according to claim 19, wherein the mouth of the tubular body has a trumpet bell shape.

Claim 25. (*New*) The method of increasing fluid handling capacity according to claim 19, wherein the mouth of the tubular body has an elliptical shape.